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Prior to 1946

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Translation

Suggestion for Work 07/9610

1. As a continuation of my "Remarks on the Situation in Germany" I present the following personal opinions on the possibility of intensive work in Germany. These opinions were formulated after I had discussed the most important points in a thorough manner with you. I then set to writing this report, which covers our main ideas.

2. Early in the discussion concerning the working methods described below the question of whether the intelligence should be better handed to a responsible American office in Wiesbaden or Frankfurt or whether it would be better to pass the intelligence to Bern. Obviously this is the first consideration. As a result of our experience to date the following advantages and disadvantages appear to obtain regarding Frankfurt and Bern:

3. Wiesbaden/Frankfurt have the definite advantage of being the American headquarters in Germany. There it is possible to effect a more rapid evaluation of individual bits of intelligence; it is also possible that other operational questions could be answered without the time lag involved in transmission to Bern. However the disadvantages of a connection with the American HQ is that any such contact would remain more or less impersonal and would suffer from the constant change in personnel.

4. Bern has the disadvantage for us of being sufficiently distant so that certain difficulties would arise in transmission of the intelligence. The advantage of working through Bern lies in the basis of personal cooperation and unchanging personnel. Of equal importance is the fact that our activities, viewed from Bern, will receive much more guidance and many more suggestions than would be forthcoming in Wiesbaden/Frankfurt. This is particularly true in relation to the Swiss special services, the basis for cooperation with which is built on existing close personal relationships. This cooperation offers advantages which cannot be seen at the moment. Therefore the affair is to be undertaken and is to be directed against the existing manifestations of the Communists, Bern has the advantage.

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Conducted On 29/1/71
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Courier Service between Wiesbaden/Bern

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5. Under existing travel conditions it is possible for the information to be brought by a reliable person, from Wiesbaden by train to Singen or Constance, where it could be picked up for Bern. In unusual cases use could be made of the offer of the Swiss, that the information be picked up by someone of the Bupo in Singen or Constance. Police officials and civilians, known to me personally, were mentioned for use as letter drops. Unfortunately, however, these persons are in the French zone in the above named cities or in other towns.

Immediate measures

6. It is most urgent that I go to Wiesbaden in the immediate future for conversations with O7, since at the moment he has no possibility of getting in touch with me. Valuable connections are being neglected and possibly even being lost. If this is the case time is being unnecessarily lost on the other side. In connection with this it is also necessary that I settle some family matters which are connected with my moving from the French zone to Wiesbaden. Aside from this there is raised the question of my employment in the police service, a question which can now be more easily solved than previously when I had to fight the prejudice of the Social Democrat Minister of the Interior and his supporters, who have now left office. (I mention this in connection with the attached file from the Swiss Bundesanwaltschaft concerning the former Gross-Hessian Minister of the Interior Hans VENEDY, now out of office.) My formal, and necessary, de-nazification is under way and may be completed in very short time so that from no place can objections to my employment by the German criminal police be raised. In order to clear up these matters once and forever, I consider it most advisable that a high American office explain to the Gross-Hessian Minister Pres. Dr. GEILER and to the recently named Minister of the Interior that my employment is considered to be worthwhile for the Americans. I believe that I can definitely assure that I am both politically and from a point of view of training suited to building

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up a new criminal police organization and that my ideas in this matter are in accord with the American ones. Also it should be taken into consideration that a position in the police, especially the criminal police, offers unusual advantages for our other work—intelligence gathering. In this connection I have thought of the possibility of utilizing the organ of the police services for opportune help, of using the guarded areas which continue to be occupied as dumping spots (dauernd besetzte Wachräume als Ablageort zu benutzen) and of using the card files and registers for all types of information.

Present Organization

7. As I have already reported orally and by writing, O7 is working primarily with former German officers and soldiers who are living in the Russian zone; with aristocracy and land owners who have had their property seized; and with a wide circle of reliable acquaintances whom he knows through professional and private connections. This latter group was formerly the leader of the directing class. On the other hand my connections till now have been limited to two former German police officials who are presently in the Eastern Zone. Their reliability cannot be doubted and they are quite successfully building up connections of intelligence value.

8. Until the present time O7, as well as myself, have received intelligence from the East in various ways, some reaching us in a limited extent by means of the open mail; some being brought by border passers, and occasionally some is carried by travelling from Berlin to the West—by the often changing representatives of the CDU. It is most probably that the increased controls along the Soviet line of demarcation and the creation of a no-man's land on the English and American sides will hinder the border traffic greatly. However, it cannot be said with certainty that all possibilities along this line have been exhausted. Unfortunately, because of these conditions we cannot practise the supervision, which in any case is difficult to maintain, because of the detours which the information must take before reaching us.

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Future Organization:

9. The net of V-men (agents) at present in existence can be greatly extended if certain basic principles are agreed upon. The establishing of the central collecting office in Wiesbaden is advantageous for many reasons. Firstly O7 practises his profession there and I also, as mentioned above, intend to practise my profession there. Furthermore, Gross-Hesse appears to be the only territory in all of the zones which is bordered by the three occupied zones and therefore is destined to have a certain central functions in the future. This territory, whose capital is Wiesbaden, has the border on the Russian zone which is best suited to our purposes because this border runs through hilly and even mountainous land, which is not easily surveyed. If Wiesbaden can be made the center, then several changes must be made from an organizational point of view. In connection with these changes, it is necessary to build up a net of V-men (agents) covering the Eastern Zone and particularly the political and military hot spots. Furthermore, it is necessary that well proven agents be established in Berlin and two or three other important places in the Eastern Zone. These agents will have the duty of collecting the intelligence from sub-agents and will also have the responsibility of forwarding it. The people suited to this task are available and only need more exact instructions and a brief training period to start work. After fulfilling certain propositions it will be possible to put into effect our proposed plan inside of three months, so that by the end of the year 1946/47 a smooth functioning organization can be expected.

10. The question which is particularly interesting here is that of the agents. It can be said that O7 intends to try to increase his agents even though the number which are already working for him, directly or indirectly, appear sufficient. O7 intends to encompass the entire Soviet area. I plan, on the other hand, to devote my time to recruiting in the German police in the Eastern Zone because I am assured of special success along that line.

The improvement of the connections already in existence as well as the forming of new connections could be considerably facilitated

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if I had the opportunity to make a short visit to Berlin where I could probably get an insight into the Russian Police organization in a short time. It can certainly be said that the Russians have employed a large group of former German police officials--a well known fact, incidentally confirmed by one of my V-men. Under this condition it would be possible to find the present address of one or more of my former professional colleagues and establish a connection with them. I see great possibilities in this -- possibilities which should not go unexploited. Policemen in their position can gather most important information on military, political and police matters. If a break in the German-Communist front could be made in this way, and I am fairly certain it can be done, then that alone means that the whole effort has paid off.

Necessary Conditions

11. (a) American support for my re-entrance into the German Police Service. This means statements to Minister Pres. GEILER, Wiesbaden, that my employment in an indicated position is considered worthwhile.

(b) Informing the competent American offices (HQ, CIO, ICD and Mil. Govt.)

(c) Personal introduction at HQ. (General GIBERT) -- only if Bern considers this necessary. This introduction could be made by O7.

Details of a Material Nature:

12. (a) Since neither O7 nor I have a house in Wiesbaden, but have found temporary lodgings with acquaintances and relatives, there is no possibility of receiving anyone, which is a recurring necessity, nor of setting up an office. There is also the consideration of housing visitors. To this end a small house on the edge of the city <sup>or a suitable floor of a building on the outskirts</sup> is necessary. Either such location would serve as an office, as a meeting place and as a place to house out of town visitors (couriers etc.)

(b) There must be fuel made available (coal or wood) and the electric current must be assured because the latter is cut

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off during certain hours in certain parts of the city.

(c) The complete lack of food and tobacco calls for an agreement on a certain amount of these things to be supplied because the V-men and couriers have to travel under difficulties and must be provided with these things. I believe that the allotment of 1 or 2 gray rations is sufficient as long as our work does not expand considerably.

(d) The installation of a telephone is absolutely necessary, but it will take months without the help of an American office.

(e) The paper, cards etc. necessary for an office could probably be supplied without too great difficulty from an American supply center.

(f) For the type of activity planned a small car would be necessary. The lack of such transportation was badly felt last Spring. Two to three hundred liters of gasoline should be sufficient per month, since long trips will not be necessary.

13. Because of the "unusual" conditions prevailing in Germany today, it is necessary to list these material needs point by point. It is absolutely impossible for us to get these things ourselves. We believe, however, that the town major of a city such as Wiesbaden could get such things in a short time. Aside from a typewriter and a few small office articles, I can donate little but my good-will, whereas in the case of O7, who was completely bombed out, there remains only his good-will.

14. If the report as here written appears somewhat rough, please realize that it is intended to convey the idea that we shall endeavor to mobilize our spiritual strength and it is for the Americans to give us the physical basis for our activity. O7 and I have discussed the details of building up an intelligence organization as much as is possible packing all the pre-requisites. We have also thought of the

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problem of the stenographic and clerical work. If this phase of the operation becomes too much for me, we would bring my wife into the service. In this, however, there is a slight sacrifice in security, as we try to keep at a minimum those individuals who handle secret material. If a chauffeur is needed from time to time, I shall find one among the members of the criminal police officials, provided of course that I am again employed there.

15. I believe that these explanations are understandable and that they are along the lines you wished. In conclusion I repeat as I have often said to you, that for us it is a question of gathering intelligence which will give the American Government the chance of judging correctly the situation in Germany and the intentions of the Soviet leaders. If we are forced to work out such important questions, as well as dealing with the hopeless problem presented by the lack of all material provisions, we ourselves regret that most of all and would rather renounce the entire project.

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